

**The following questions have been presented as of May 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. CST. Please accept the following as an addendum to the RFP for Broadband:**

**Question #1: Two weeks is very short notice to prepare a proposal of this scope and size.**

**Answer: Yes, two weeks is a quick turn-around. It is intended to be fast tracked with the intent to order fiber before anticipated price increases, in hopes to avoid delivery delays, to start construction started as soon as possible and complete the project as soon as possible for our citizens.**

**Question #2: Have any potential respondents had access to the RFP, itself, or to information that allowed them to get a head start on the response either verbally or otherwise? If so, who are they, what information were they given and when?**

**Answer: No one had access to the RFP prior to May 17, 2021, when the RFP was approved and issued by the Warren Fiscal Court.**

**The media and the Fiscal Court members were notified of the RFP agenda item, 3 days before the Fiscal Court meeting (May 14, 2021).**

**Spectrum/Charter and NCTC, partnering with WRECC, are non-exclusive City/County franchisees and have been service providers who have been expanding fiber within Warren County. Both of these service providers**

participated in the Federal Government RDOF reverse action and both were awarded areas by the FCC in the rural perimeter of Warren County. Both of the local franchisees/service providers have known of Fiscal Court's goals and objectives for affordable countywide fiber broadband accessibility, as this has been an ongoing public discussion and priority for the County for over 10 years. It is our understanding that both local service providers have been doing engineering work in the County, preparing for construction in their respective awarded RDOF areas. Their reports to the Fiscal Court suggested that their RDOF fiber construction should begin soon. AT&T and Windstream also have fiber in Warren County and know of our desired expansion.

**Question# 3: To clarify, is the scope EVERY household that is not currently served or will be served by RDOF with broadband, or AS MANY AS POSSIBLE?**

**Answer: The intent of the Warren Fiscal Court is to connect the fiber network to every household in the specific areas that are unserved/underserved. We are excluding areas that are currently served with access to fiber broadband and areas specified in the RDOF.**

**It is not intended to take fiber to every household in areas that already have broadband service available, or have already been planned and funded (RDOF). We aren't looking to duplicate areas that are already serviced with**

**fiber and gigabit service availability or already funded for fiber to home by the FCC or USDA.**

**Question #4: Are you requesting that fiber to the premises (home) be exclusively proposed or for the respondent to use a value judgment where fiber to premises where feasible and fiber to tower for broadband speed wireless or another solution, where fiber to premises would be prohibitive?**

**Answer: Yes, we are exclusively asking for responses for fiber to every home.**

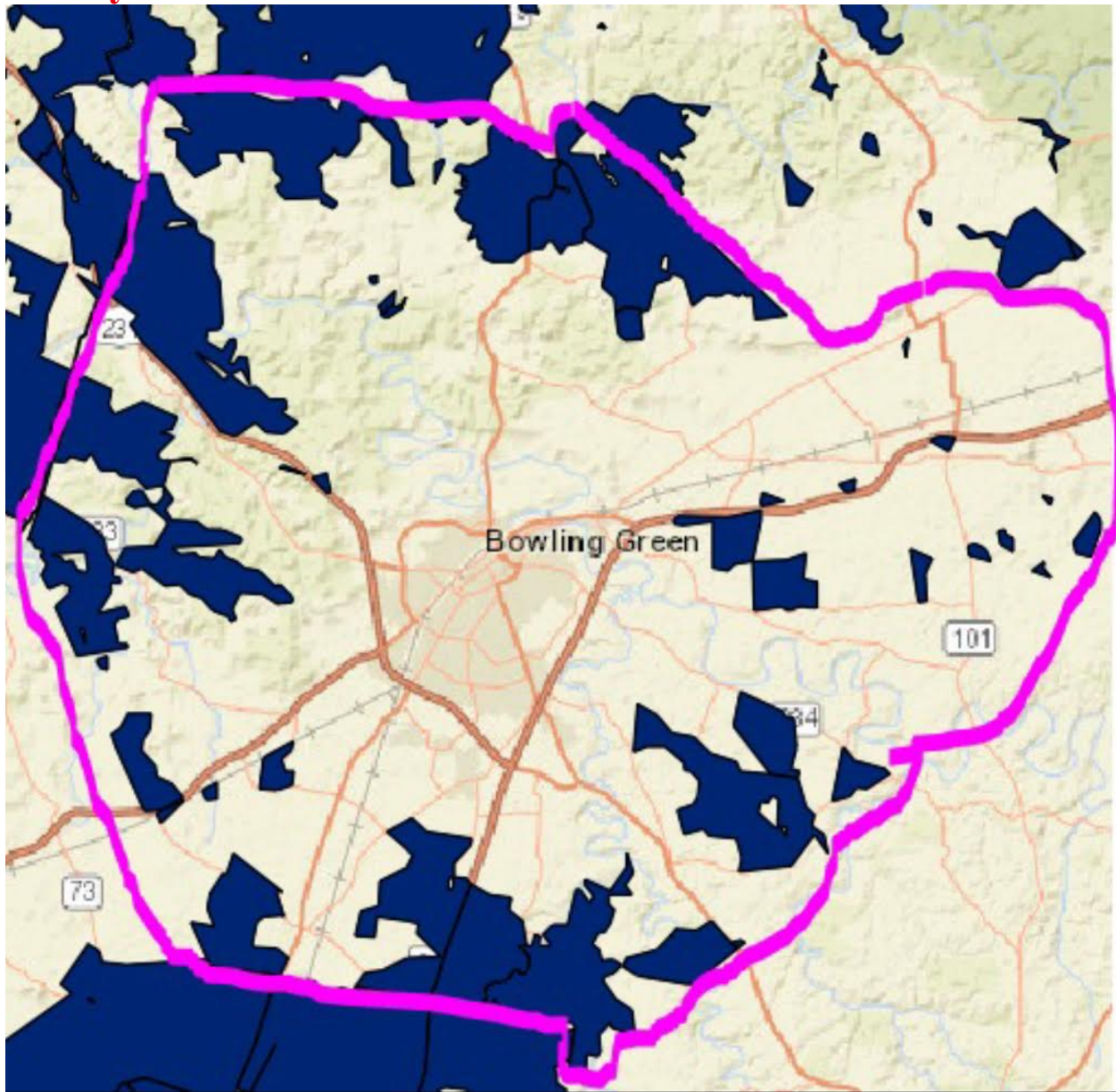
**If exceptions are determined to be necessary, respondents should identify those homes they feel must be served by a different wireless solution and justify why the fiber is prohibitive and why the selected solution was determined to be better. If respondents make a decision to submit alternatives or make subjective value-based connections on their judgment, this issue can presented to the Fiscal Court at the respondent's presentation.**

**Question #5: Has any existing work to map the unserved areas been done by the county or their partners, and if so, is this available, or should only the commercially available maps be used?**

**Answer: Warren Fiscal Court has not completed mapping in recent months or within the last couple of years. The last RFP was issued for an Open System Fiber Network 2-3 years ago. At that time the Fiscal Court received responses from**

**multiple vendors and their partnering service providers. The maps we had at that time were provided by the vendors and some by the company who provided our feasibility study.**

**Your commercially available maps should be utilized. Some may be found online. The RDOF map is attached as Exhibit A for your reference.**



**This is for illustration only of the approximate RDOF areas, and should only be used for reference. Actual maps may be commercially available or found online.**

**Question #6: Have any of the utilities or cooperatives been approached as partners for county government on this RFP prior to release of the RFP? If so, which one(s) and in what capacity?**

**Answer: Not on this RFP. Over the course of years, all the electric power, water utilities and telephone companies have been contacted and requested to partner in any way they would consider. BGMU, WRECC, Warren County Water District, AT&T, NCTC and Windstream have all been asked and encouraged to partner with the County - with the ultimate goal to provide access to high speed affordable internet services to every residence countywide. Each utility was asked to participate at whatever level they could and would, in any capacity, with whatever assets available to them.**

**Question #7: Are complete proposals require by June 1st, 2021. Isn't that short timeline for such a large contract?**

**Answer: Yes, it is a short timeline, but time is of the essence for Warren County. The finite fiber supply is being outpaced by the demand for fiber, causing rapidly growing delivery delays and each day that passes before fiber is ordered is causing prices to increase. This could create even bigger delays in providing service to our residents. However, experienced fiber construction companies and service providers should have the data available and the ability to respond timely.**

**Question #8: Is this RFP limited to current service providers?**

**Answer: No. This is open to everyone, although current service providers may have advantages of local experience, knowing their current service areas, the topographical rural terrain, their current geographical service areas, and knowledge of existing right of ways. Although we are certain much of the information needed is likely available online or commercially available.**

**Question #9: Will the winning service provider be awarded exclusive franchise to these areas?**

**Answer: No, none of the areas in Warren County have exclusive franchises. However, the fiber construction company who is awarded this fiber buildout to every home within these areas will own the fiber network they build and may choose to utilize the fiber exclusively to the residents, through one public service provider exclusively to each customer resident, (or may choose to contract through lease for usage to multiple service providers if they wish).**